

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, lines 10-18 of the Specification with the following paragraph:

The responding nodes may include capabilities for determining response delay times. The response delay times allow the responses from the nodes to be staggered, thus preventing a possible flood of network traffic. For example, each responding node may be capable of multiplying a predetermined delay constant by its network address (or a portion thereof) to calculate a delay to wait before sending its response back to node 11 (**Step S25**). The predetermined delay constant can be preset for each node. The delay constant may be included with the query from calling node 11. This allows node 11 to customize the response times from the responding nodes based, for example, on projected network traffic, etc. The delay time calculations will be described in more detail later below.

Please add the following paragraphs at page 4, line 18 of the Specification (prior to the *Brief Description of the Drawings*):

According to another aspect of the present disclosure, a program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to identify a plurality of nodes on a network, comprises instructions to receive at at least one of the plurality of nodes on the network a query posed by a caller node. The program storage device further comprises instructions to monitor, at a responder node which received the query, responses from other nodes to the query and maintain a list of nodes which responded to the query.

According to another aspect of the present disclosure, a computer data signal embodied in a transmission medium comprises (1) a first segment including receive query code to receive a query sent by a caller node to a plurality of nodes on a network, and (2) a second segment including list processing code to monitor responses from other nodes to the query and maintain a list of nodes which responded to the query.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicants submit herewith a Replacement Sheet for FIGURE 2.